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Round-the-House WORK CLOTHES



Four warm weather house-dresses with wings in place of sleeves, and an apron so adjustable that it fits almost any one, have been designed in clothing laboratories of the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics.

Like all of the Bureau's designs for women's work clothing, these models are functional--that is, scientifically planned to meet tests of comfort, convenience, safety, durability, and becomingness. Every style feature serves a purpose.



BELTED DRESS. There is becoming fullness in the six-gored skirt, and a tailored look to the square neck and side opening. The dress buttons almost two-thirds of the way down, which is as far as most women unfasten a dress that can be opened all the way.

PULL-OVER DRESS. Side front and back seams make a better fitting, more comfortable garment than the one-piece front and one-piece back of the usual pull-over. The double-ruffled wing is less bulky and easier to iron than a pinafore's heavy ruffle.

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Maximum comfort--both physical and mental--is the aim in recent work clothing research. A garment that provides physical comfort may still lack something in mental comfort if the worker is aware of a sleeve lightly rubbing her arm, or a pleat in her waist that fails to open and close smoothly. Such things can be irritating. If a worker can concentrate on her job without being reminded of what she is wearing, her work clothes are tops in comfort, and a greater aid to her efficiency.

Some main points that help each house-dress design to deserve the name functional are given below. They are good points to look for in any readymade house-dress or housedress pattern.

To make it functional . . .

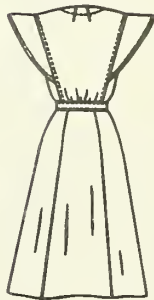
A dress is styled with easy fit--which is quite different from making a garment oversize. The skirt is wide enough, but not too wide, for comfort and safety at work--regardless of style trends in street clothes.

Pockets are at hand level, and either the pocket or its opening is slanted for further convenience.

Waist ties, and also pockets, are stitched into seams for firmness and easy sewing. Seams are plain, and twice stitched a little way apart--about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch--to keep them from breaking or stretching.

The dress has no dangling bows or other features that might catch on pan handles. The dress is easy to put on and take off. It is easy to wash and iron. It is simple to make--though not to the point of sacrificing durability and other worthwhile features.

SURPLICE DRESS. Surplice styles are perennial favorites, easy to put on and take off. This design has a six-gored skirt and buttons are placed for easy fastening. This dress can be speedily ironed.



The fabric and the workmanship do their part in making the dress right for the job, durable, comfortable, attractive.

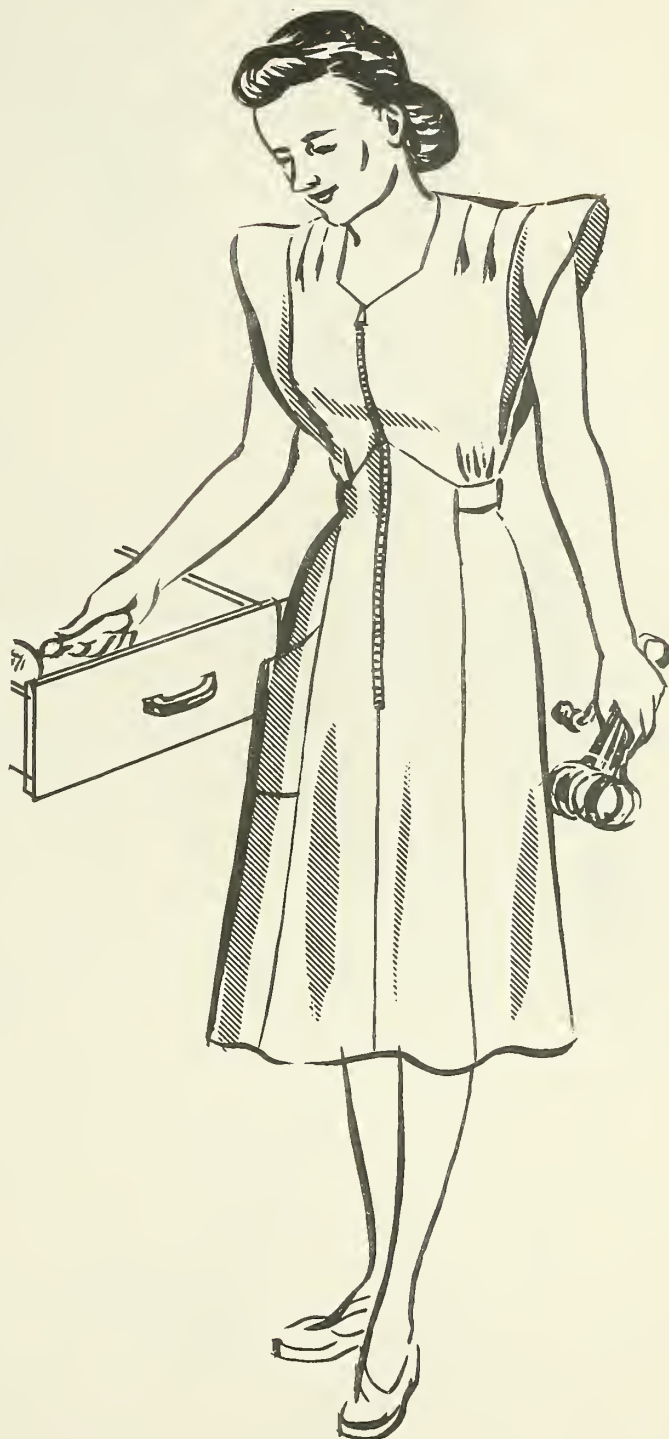
Each of the wing housedresses--designed for those who like sleeveless styles in summer or to wear in a warm kitchen at any season--has these additional features:

Wings are double-layered to hold shape and crispness from one laundering to the next. Wings are styled for becoming shoulder width without need of padding.

Wings are stitched in with side front seams for durability and easy sewing. The three-dimensional feature under the arm gives a wing-style dress a better fit. It provides for the body's thickness and saves wings from crushing.

The adjustable apron, like the dresses, conforms to functional principles.

These scientific work clothes designs are being reproduced in commercial patterns for home sewers. The patterns are identified by a credit line to the Bureau.



ZIPPER DRESS. The slightly pointed neckline serves a purpose--it is not strained by the pull of the zipper. Narrow ties hold the waist smooth, and the wearer can adjust them to suit her comfort.

4 Round-the-House Work Clothes — Continued...



ADJUSTABLE APRON. Simple to construct, with few seams, this apron can be made from a yard of 36-inch material by careful cutting. It will fit almost any member of the family by simple adjustment of the cord that runs through three loops--one attached to the V-shape joining of the straps, and one at each side of the waist.



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